

CLAIMS:

1. A window barrier configured to be coupled to a vehicle door supported within a door frame, the vehicle door including a window panel supported within a window channel and door trim supported in spaced relation to the window channel, the window barrier comprising:

an upper frame member;

a lower frame member supported in spaced relation below the upper frame member;

at least one barrier element extending between the upper frame member and the lower frame member;

a first securing member configured to releasably secure the upper frame member to the door, the first securing member including a retaining portion configured to operably couple with the door trim and positioned in spaced relation to the window channel; and

a second securing member configured to releasably secure the lower frame member to the door.

2. The window barrier of claim 1, wherein the first securing member is configured to be received within a slot formed within the door trim.

3. The window barrier of claim 1, wherein the door trim comprises weather strip supported by the door frame.

4. The window barrier of claim 1, wherein the first securing member comprises at least one clip coupled to the upper frame member.

5. The window barrier of claim 4, wherein the clip includes a connector and first and second arms extending from the connector, the second arm of the clip defining the retaining portion which is configured to be received within a slot formed within the door trim.

6. The window barrier of claim 5, wherein the first arm of the clip is configured to be received intermediate an outer weather strip and the door, and the second arm of the clip is configured to be received intermediate an inner weather strip and the door.

7. The window barrier of claim 4, wherein the clip includes a portion configured to be received intermediate the door frame and the door.

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8. The window barrier of claim 1, wherein the second securing member includes a longitudinally extending retaining flange configured to be received within a slot formed within an interior surface of the door.

5 9. The window barrier of claim 1, wherein the at least one barrier element includes a plurality of substantially vertically extending barrier members.

10. The window barrier of claim 9, wherein each of the barrier members comprises a rod having a substantially circular cross-section.

10 11. The window barrier of claim 9, wherein the plurality of barrier members are configured to generally follow the angle of inclination of a window supported by the door.

12. A window barrier configured to be supported by a vehicle door including an interior surface and a window panel, the window barrier comprising:

an upper frame member;

15 a lower frame member supported in spaced relation below the upper frame member, the lower frame member including a panel rest portion and a retaining flange, and a connecting portion connecting the panel rest portion and the retaining flange;

20 wherein the panel rest portion and the retaining flange extend downwardly from the connecting portion, the panel rest portion being configured to rest against the interior surface of the vehicle door, and the retaining flange being configured to be received within a slot formed within the door intermediate the interior surface and the window panel; and

at least one barrier element supported by the connecting portion of the lower frame member.

25 13. The window barrier of claim 12, wherein the lower frame member defines a substantially U-shaped channel.

14. The window barrier of claim 12, wherein the lower frame member further comprises a notch configured to receive a lock button supported by the door.

15. The window barrier of claim 12, further comprising a securing member configured to releasably secure the upper frame member to the vehicle door.

30 16. The window barrier of claim 15, wherein the securing member comprises at least one clip connected to the upper frame member.

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17. The window barrier of claim 12, wherein the vehicle door is supported within a door frame and the upper frame member includes a portion configured to be received intermediate the door frame and the door.

18. A window barrier configured to be coupled to a vehicle door supported within a door frame, the vehicle door including a window panel supported within a window channel, the window barrier comprising:

a barrier frame including upper and lower ends;

an upper securing member coupled to the barrier frame proximate the upper end and including a portion configured to be received intermediate the door frame and the door, wherein movement of the upper end of the barrier frame in a first direction is prevented by the door frame and movement of the upper end of the barrier frame in a second direction opposite the first direction is prevented by the door;

a lower securing member coupled to the barrier frame proximate the lower end; and

at least one barrier element supported by the barrier frame.

19. The window barrier of claim 18, wherein the upper securing member comprises at least one clip, the clip including a connector and first and second arms extending from the connector.

20. The window barrier of claim 19, wherein the first arm of the clip is secured to the upper end of the barrier frame and the second arm of the clip is configured to be received within a slot formed within the door.

21. The window barrier of claim 19, wherein the first arm of the clip is configured to be received intermediate an outer weather strip and the door, and the second arm of the clip is configured to be received intermediate an inner weather strip and the door.

22. The window barrier of claim 18, wherein the lower securing member includes a retaining flange configured to be received within a channel formed within the door intermediate the interior surface and a window supported within the door.

23. The window barrier of claim 22, wherein the lower securing member further includes a panel rest portion connected to the retaining flange and configured to rest against an interior surface of the vehicle door.

24. The window barrier of claim 18, wherein the at least one barrier element comprises a plurality of substantially vertically extending barrier members.